

# CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

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"WHAT THOU SEEST, WRITE—AND SEND UNTO THE—CHURCHES."

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## CONDITIONS.

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From the London Baptist Magazine.

## BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

Extract from a letter of W. Thomas, to the Secretaries, dated Limerick, Sept. 15, 1825.

I beg leave to mention two instances, which will show the great importance of scriptural instruction. I have just returned from the most remote, barbarous, and neglected part of Ireland, situated between sixty and seventy Irish miles west of Limerick, the western point of Ireland, in the county of Clare; the population is incredible; and for 23 miles, from Kilrush to Loohead lighthouse, there is but one Roman Catholic chapel, and no other. The people have no regard for the Lord's day, they work in their fields, and fish, and pursue brutal exercises; very few of them ever go to chapel, it is so distant.

In the midst of this benighted and far distant region, the Baptist Irish Society, has an Irish school, at a place called Thrustleave, where there are thirty in attendance, half of whom are reading the Irish Scriptures. J—N—, the master, is a most devoted man, and goes a great distance round, to read the Irish Scriptures to the people, who hear him with the greatest attention. Now I mention the great importance of scriptural instruction; in giving me an account of his labours, he said he was reading the 22nd chapter of Luke in Irish, relative to the sufferings of our blessed Lord, when one of the number who were present, said to the rest in Irish,—"If I were going to murder or rob, or injure my neighbour, do you think I could do it, when I should think of these words?"

He was reading the Irish Scriptures at another time, to several people, when a man acknowledged and said, "I intended to have injured such a man, and to have driven all the cattle I could collect one night, to have destroyed all his wheat, oats, and potatoes, but when I heard J—N— read the Irish Testament, my conscience would not let me."—These two instances alone say more, in my opinion, for the great importance of scriptural education, than all that was ever said by its devoted advocates.

I was informed that the Popish Bishop went into the neighbourhood lately, and desired the people to be aware of the books, there was poison in them. The priest destroyed the first school the Baptist Irish Society established there about six years ago; they were the first, and the only persons, who sent the preached and the inspired word of God into that dark and remote region.

In the Bird-hill school, six of the children repeated from memory the Gospel of Matthew and three chapters of the Epistle to the Romans each; four repeated ten chapters each; two said four each, which makes 234 chapters. The children of Black-water school, still appear to exceed them. The schools would all flourish, and the nation would soon be evangelized, were it not for the priests.

Extract from a letter of J. Wilson, to the same, dated Boyle, Sept. 13, 1825.

I have now seen nearly the whole of the schools in both districts, and though there are still some discouraging circumstances attending some of them, I have to state, that I was never more gratified than I have been in the instruction of others.

There are three parishes where the most determined and persevering opposition is maintained, in which we have eight schools: all of them, however, give pleasing evidence that the people are de-

termined to have their children educated, for some Roman Catholic as well as Protestant children, are found in all of them. As a contrast to the proceedings of the priests in those parishes, I have pleasure in stating, that we have the continued co-operation of some others; and in one instance, one who was formerly hostile, is now an encourager of the schools; and, consequently, in a school that I inspected in his parish, there were 199 pupils, 49 of whom were reading the Testament, and most of them committing portions of it to memory. In another parish, the priest went with me to inspect the school, and was evidently interested in the proficiency of the children, of whom there were 121 present—30 being in the Testament class, and committing it to memory. After the examination of the children, in their presence, and that of about 20 adults, he requested from me the present of an English Bible, which request I have cheerfully complied with.

I was also much pleased with the proficiency of the children in some other schools, particularly the Harlow, and the Ahe-street female schools; in the latter of which there is a little girl who can repeat 100 chapters very correctly, who is only nine years old.

## REPORT OF THE ENGLISH BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, FOR 1825.

In meeting the general body of their friends on this annual occasion, the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society feel mingled emotions of gratitude and sorrow. To lose in rapid succession, our faithful, zealous, and endeared guides and associates in the work of the mission, cannot fail to occasion deep and painful regret; while, on the other hand, the evidences of a divine blessing on the operations of the Society during the past year, of which a brief account is now to be given, call for thankfulness and praise. May the combined influence of these considerations urge us to renewed diligence and activity in the holy cause in which we are engaged!

From the various stations planted on

## THE CONTINENT OF INDIA.

the accounts wear the same general features as in former years. Mr. Fernandez, though considerably advanced in life, continues to preside over the church at Dinagapoor, consisting of nearly 100 members, and the schools connected with it, with the anxiety of a parent. At Dacca, the schools and regular congregations are increasing; and among other additions, Mr. Leonard speaks of a young Armenian lately baptized there, whose general information, and accurate acquaintance with the Persian and Turkish languages, seem to warrant the hope that he is designed for future usefulness. Mr. Thompson states, that the congregation at Delhi has become much more numerous of late; five persons have been added to the church, including another Brahmin, and a small commencement has been made in the work of female education.

The church at Cutwa, under the care of Mr. Wm. Carey, has been favored with several additions to its number, and the accounts given by these new converts from heathenism of the operations of divine truth upon their minds, are said to have been very pleasing. Others have died in the faith, sustained in the last conflict by the consolations and hopes of true religion. The Journals of the native preachers at this station, which have been occasionally published in the Herald, show their steady perseverance in proclaiming the word of life in the numerous villages around them. A single quotation from one of those journals, will prove that these humble teachers are not deficient in an acquaintance with divine truth, or unskilled in the mode of conveying it to others. "Spoke to a Brahmin (says Kangalee,) who asked me what I thought of Ram Mohun Roy's way." I said, "that he was like a man who shows me a fine house in the jungles, but cannot point out the way or door to it. Ram Mohun Roy points out but one God, but does not point out the way to him; and so his instructions can be of no use to me; Christ is the door, and none can go to God but by him!"

Our communications from Serampore during the past year, have been frequent and interesting. The brief notices which have been repeatedly published, since our last annual meeting, of those natives, male and female, who have expired at this station, exhibiting the genuine influence of the gospel of Christ, form a refreshing contrast to the tales of horror and of blood, with which the Brahminical superstition has rendered us too familiar. The proficiency made by the students in the Sanskrit and English languages, astron-

omy, geography, and other branches of knowledge, was highly satisfactory. Nor was the examination of the female schools less encouraging. Two hundred and thirty little girls were present, many of whom received rewards for their improvement; and the cheerfulness and animation, visible in their countenances, seemed almost insensibly to fill the company with pleasure and delight. From a statement of the Female Schools established in India, by benevolent individuals of different denominations drawn up and published by our brethren in June last, it appears that the whole number was 75, containing 1394 pupils—a number, which, though small compared to the vast population of the country, sufficiently proves that the system is making sure and steady progress.

No distinct memoir on the subject of the translations has arrived since our last meeting: but a recent letter from Dr. Carey, states, that no less than fourteen versions are now advancing towards a termination, each of which is under his superintendence, and the several proof sheets pass three or four times under his revision, before they are finally committed to the press. "In printing the versions of the Bible, (he adds in a subsequent letter,) we may go to the very extremity of our funds. The New Testament will soon be published in at least 34 languages, and the Old Testament in eight, besides versions in three varieties of the Hindostanee New Testament. These varieties excepted, I have translated several of the above, and superintended, with as much care as I could exercise, the translation and printing of them all. The Chinese Bible, which brother Marshman translated and conducted through the press, is not included in the above number. I am fully conscious that there must be many imperfections in these versions; but I have done my best, and I believe the faults are imperfections will, when party rivalry ceases, be found to be much fewer than might be supposed: I think I can speak with some confidence of them, and I am not disposed to magnify my own labours."

Our brethren at Calcutta, have still been called to endure much personal affliction, and one of the number, Mr. Eustace Carey, has been constrained, in consequence to leave this station, and seek that health in other climes, of which he has long suffered the want in Bengal.

But while sickness has thus withdrawn one valuable missionary from his labors at this principal station, others have been raised up there to render important and necessary aid. A pious young man, of the name of Scoot, has been engaged to assist Mr. Pierce in the printing-office, and two or three have been acceptably employed in preaching to the natives. One of these, Mr. Wm. Kirkpatrick, has discovered such aptitude and inclination to the work, that the Committee, on the recommendation of their Calcutta brethren, have adopted him as a Missionary. This young man, it should be added, was educated in the Benevolent Institution, and thus affords another striking proof of the utility of those exertions that have been made to instruct the children of the poor. Respecting female education too, the report from Calcutta is equally favorable with that from Serampore.

Several persons, natives and others, have been added to the church under the care of our junior brethren.

At Howrah, two native chapels have been erected under the superintendence of Mr. Statham. Here also a Mussulman moonshiee, or teacher, has been baptized—an event which occasioned great surprise among that class of the natives, and led to much inquiry. Among other pleasing incidents, Mr. Statham mentions one which clearly shews the value of the Bengalee Bible. "One poor old woman was sick a few days ago, and sent for me; she appeared to be very ill indeed, yet calm and resigned. On my asking her how she felt with regard to entering on an eternal world, she said, 'It will be a happy change for me.' I asked the grounds of such a hope. She clasped her Bengalee Bible, which lay by her cot, and said, 'I find Christ here, Christ in my heart, and Christ in Heaven. He died for poor sinners like me. I know he is able to save me. I believe he will; and then she prayed so sweetly, that I could not forbear crying out, 'Oh, that my latter end may be like hers.'"

In another of his communications, Mr. Stratham, whose situation appears to afford him peculiar opportunities to watch the progress of the native mind, in alluding to the misrepresentations of the Abbe Dubois' "Statements," he remarks, "so glaringly false and invidious, that even the foes of missions, residing on the

spot, are obliged to palliate and apologize for them,"—expresses his persuasion, "that the real cause of such opposition, is the probable success of missionary efforts. There is, and none can deny it, who knows any thing of these matters, a far greater prospect of the establishment of the Redeemer's kingdom among the Hindoos, than ever presented itself before. I well remember the time, when I offered a tract, or Gospel, to a rich Baboo, he would reject it in scorn; and now the same character is continually inquiring for more books. Not two years ago, female education, was looked upon by the rich natives, as a thing derogatory to their caste; now they are desirous to get female teachers for their wives and daughters. I recollect, when in Sulkea Bazaar, the natives would not let myself and the native with me, get a place to preach in; now they say, 'Come often—tell us more about these things.' I have, at this moment, thirty-six boys, the sons of natives of good estate, reading the scriptures in my verandah, who some time ago were afraid to touch a book. Depend on it, that the Lord is fulfilling his promises, quicker than our thoughts surmise. I would not anticipate too great things, but I do humbly trust that our hearts will be soon refreshed, by intelligence of the most pleasing description. Only pray, oh, let us pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit!"

The station at Digah has been maintained by the persevering exertions of Mrs. Rowe, who superintends the schools, and directs the proceedings of the native itinerants residing there. It is probable, that ere now, Mr. Moore, who formerly resided with Mr. Rowe, at Digah, has returned thither with his family.

The disastrous war, which has broken out between the British Government and that of Burmah, has reduced the church formed among the Mug nation, to great distress; and obliged Mr. Johannes to discontinue, for a season, the male and female schools, which were under his care at Chitagong. The perils to which our American brethren in Burmah have been exposed, from the same cause, are generally known: their result, in reference to Messrs. Judson and Price, and their families, is still a matter of painful uncertainty.

Recent accounts from the Island of Ceylon, are more encouraging than those we have formerly had to communicate. After a long continuance of apparently unproductive labor, Mr. Chater had the pleasure, in September last, of receiving into the little church at Colombo, eight members, chiefly young persons; and several others appear to be under hopeful impressions.

The political arrangement which has lately transferred the Island of Sumatra to the Dutch Government, may, in its consequences, considerably affect our missionary stations on that island, as the continuance of that official sanction which has hitherto been given to schools, and other means of communicating instruction to the Malays, is uncertain. To the late Governor of that settlement, the Hon. Sir Stamford Raffles, the cordial thanks of the Society are due, for the kind and efficient patronage which he has always afforded the mission. One of the most pleasing features in the accounts recently forwarded by our brethren at Bencoolen, is the progress of the native schools, the last general examination of which, was conducted by the Governor in person.

At Padang, the prospects of Mr. Evans have again become doubtful, in consequence of the lamented death of Colonel Raaf, the resident, whose enlightened mind had led him to appreciate exertions for the moral welfare of the people under his charge, and to extend towards such exertions, that patronage, without which, it seems in these settlements, almost impossible that they can succeed. From Sebolga, Mr. Burton informs us that he has translated the first six chapters of the Gospel of St. John, into the Battak language, and is frequently asked by his neighbors to lend the manuscript for their perusal. Accompanied by Mr. N. Ward, from Bencoolen, he lately made an excursion into the interior of the country, where no white men had ever been seen before. Their appearance, as it was to be expected, excited so much curiosity, that several thousands were collected, at different stages of their journey, to meet them. Mr. Burton was well understood, and much attention was paid to his brief and simple expositions of the first principles of the oracles of God.

The aspect of the West Indian Mission, during the past year, has been such as to awaken frequent solicitude; while, at the same time, much cause has existed for grateful acknowledgment.

Immediately after the last annual meeting, intelligence arrived of the decease, after an illness of only three days, of Mr. Thomas Knibb, who conducted the Free School at Kingston, in connexion with the church, under the care of Mr. Coultart. His place has since been supplied by a younger brother, Mr. W. Knibb, who arrived in Jamaica in February last. Considerable additions have been made to each of the churches in Kingston—no less than four hundred and fifty to Mr. Coultart's alone—and cheering testimonies to the nature and value of the Gospel, have been borne by many, in the solemn hour of approaching dissolution.

At Montego Bay, the congregation has increased so considerably, as to render it necessary for Mr. Burchell to procure larger premises; and by the kind assistance of some of the resident gentlemen, he has been enabled to obtain a large building in the centre of the town, formerly used as the court house, more recently as a theatre. Here a church has been formed, and the Gospel has proved successful in reclaiming several from the error of their ways, who have given themselves to the Lord and to his people according to his word. But we regret to say, that here also, much opposition has been experienced, and many impediments are thrown in the way of the attendance of the negroes on Mr. Burchell's ministry. These remarks we are happy to add, do not apply to Anotta Bay. There, the attendance of all classes has been good; an obvious improvement has taken place in the morals of many; some, it is hoped, have experienced a saving change; and a church has been formed, consisting of forty members.

Amidst many circumstances of a discouraging nature, Mr. Bourn has continued his labours at Belize, and has not been permitted to do so entirely in vain. His congregation has gradually increased; four persons have been baptized; several others were candidates for that ordinance; and after much personal toil and fatigue, he has completed the erection of a building, which comprises, under the same roof, a dwelling house and a commodious chapel. But the mysterious providence of God has seen fit, in a very affecting manner, to disappoint his expectations, and those of the committee, in reference to the mission to the Mosquito shore.—Mr. Fleming, who was designated for this new undertaking, arrived at Belize in July last, had an interview with some of the Mosquito Indians who visited that town soon afterwards, and was deeply interested in the prospect before him: but before he could proceed to the place of his destination, a malignant fever was commissioned to remove him from the scenes of mortality.—Only four days after his decease, his affectionate partner was called to follow him, and they now rest together till the resurrection morn, in the land, which only two months before, they had entered as the messengers of salvation.—Under bereavements so unexpected and awful, our only resource is in the conviction of the holiness and goodness of the Great Arbiter of life and death. May he grant us wisdom rightly to interpret these mysterious expressions of his will!

From the Christian Watchman.

## LETTERS FROM THE WEST.

NO. III.

To the Editor of the Christian Watchman, ILLINOIS AND MISSOURI.

There are few Americans who have read the distorted and exaggerated accounts of the character of our country, as given by such writers as Ashe, Weld, and other British tourists, and have not felt indignant at the writers, or else been disposed to retort in the biting satire of the author of "John Bull in America." Precisely analogous are the feelings of our western Population, when they read the effusions which have called forth my preceding remarks. There is, however, one striking difference in the two cases. The one class have written for the express purpose of disparaging our country, and undervaluing our institutions. Every defect in morals, literature, and internal improvement has been seized, perverted, exaggerated, and coloured to suit the unworthy motives of the tourists. The authors of the latter productions are excusable on the score of motive. Doubtless their intentions are good.—Doubtless they feel—most heartily and sincerely feel for the moral and religious welfare of their brethren in the west, and are disposed to make many sacrifices for their spiritual benefit. But it is to be lamented that there has been manifest within a few years past much of the spirit of exaggeration. Every dark picture has been seized, and unhesitatingly presented before



the public for the purpose of exciting benevolent and liberal feelings. Instead of showing what God hath wrought in the religious condition of our country, it has also been too often the case that its "moral desolations" have been a theme upon which declamation has exhausted its powers. Some, who have travelled as exploring missionaries have told us less about the prosperous, than the adverse state of things.

From reading some things, which have been published, a stranger would conclude the character of our population was rapidly deteriorating, and our country threatened ere long to be given up a prey to heathenism.

I have no objection against a fair, impartial and correct exposure of the condition of our country, even "the deplorable state of things in the west," but I wish to have the good accompany the evil—the light to be blended with the shade, when our moral picture is drawn. I have no objections, against our brethren, the Congregationalists and Presbyterians, exposing the weak state of their own societies and the paucity of their own preachers in the west, nor the retrograde course these denominations are taking in the east, if indeed these things are so. Let them count up the fewness of their preachers, the desolate state of their churches, the need of immediate help, and by every proper means arouse their brethren to send out missionaries amongst us. Other sects, as well as their own, will rejoice together with them in the success of their labours; but let them not produce a false impression on the public mind abroad about the state of morals and religion, by leaving out the condition and progress of other denominations. Let them not seize and publish with undue eagerness every letter, that may exhibit the dark side of the picture, written perhaps under depression of spirits, and exhibiting, perhaps, the truth as to one or two settlements, but by no means a fair representation of the country generally.

We do not complain that individuals under such circumstances should write as they feel and see, but that extracts are selected from such communications by Education, Missionary, or Tract Societies, published to the world in italics, or glaring capitals, and afterwards triumphantly appealed to as complete proofs of the "moral desolations" of our country.

There may be a reason assigned, why this disposition to exhibit gloomy and discouraging pictures of the condition of our country so generally prevails. But a few years since the public mind was most powerfully excited by accounts of the appalling superstitions of the heathen, especially those of Asia. A spirit of benevolence has been awakened from Maine to Georgia, and exertions on an extensive scale have been made to send them the gospel. This impulse produced Bible, Tract, Education and other Societies. Intelligence about the wretched state of the heathen was eagerly sought after. The arid plains of Juggernaut, the flame of the funeral pile, and all the mass of misery, found in the dominion of eastern idolatry, had power to move. Hence it became common to depict all these appalling facts in missionary sermons. It was the popular theme, and success followed in collecting missionary funds. Many good men adopted the same course, while pleading for the destitute portions of our own country. The education societies seized this method, as a sure means of success. The catalogues of Colleges were examined and appealed to, as irrefragable proofs, that the moral desolations of our country were widening, and the "waste places" fast increasing—that some unheard of, and extraordinary effort must be made to save our country from all the frightful consequences of—an unlearned ministry. And as it was found from College catalogues, that there were fewer "qualified" Clergymen west of the Alleghany ridge than east of it, it was assumed as a fact, that here "the tide of moral desolation was setting in, threatening to bear away the pillars of State, and altars of devotion." Doubts having been expressed as to the existence of such a state of things, to the extent that had been represented, it became necessary for those, who had hazarded these statements, to support their correctness by gleanings every scrap of intelligence, that would bear upon the subject. Hence the "letters" of missionaries, and journals of travellers have been searched, and every thing possible selected to prove, that the western country, is one vast moral desert. Lately the plan of Domestic Missions is proposed to be changed; and instead of sending out preachers to itinerate on the frontiers, it has become popular in some of the eastern states to furnish churches and settlements with Pastors; and in arousing the public attention to this subject, the "moral desolations" of our land are again exhibited, triumphant appeals are made to former reports of the American Education Society, and it is affirmed "the portentous cloud that darkens the western horizon—rises and extends in fearful and angry aspect." And the interrogative is most feelingly propounded, "what can be done to save that people from impending ruin."

A Western Baptist.

Nov. 10, 1825.

#### From the Edinburgh Review. RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN SWITZERLAND.

It has long been a matter of suspicion with many, that the credit obtained by Switzerland for toleration, liberality, and generally for pure love of liberty in all its forms, was considerably beyond her deserts. The struggle made by the Swissers of old against oppression, though infinitely less brilliant than that of the Dutch, had justly illustrated their name; and the asylum afforded for many years to persecuted men of other countries, served to continue the fame of earlier times, after the public conduct of the cantons in other respects, had ceased to challenge any share of admiration. But in truth, there were always deep stains upon the character of those states; and their traffic in mercenaries, whom they hired for money to be body-guards of foreign tyrants, was a commerce only to be excused by our slave trade, in national infancy. Acts of oppression were also far from unusual in many of the states—while, in most of them, a spirit of aristocracy, not to be paralleled in modern times formed a plausible objection to the general scheme of their political administration.

They have allowed themselves to be made the tools of the Holy Allies, and expelled from their territories some of the most virtuous of men, who had taken refuge there from the unprincipled oppression of tyrants, and were, in all quiet and innocence, cultivating the arts of peace. And as all slavish compliance is in its nature progressive, and apt even to engender new and more degrading businesses, we now find the most undisguised religious persecution patronized by those whom submission to the Holy Allies, had trained to the practice of political oppression. The story would be hardly credible in the nineteenth century, were the scene laid in Madrid; or in any age, were Switzerland the place.

It seems, that for some time past, certain religionists have appeared in different parts of Switzerland, and have given offence to the bulk of the community, particularly in the Pays de Vaud, by the peculiarities of their habits. We cannot well describe otherwise, the differences which distinguish these persons; for though they are called a new sect, and treated as such, we do not find that they hold any peculiar tenets, or adopt any form of worship different from that of the Established Church. If they did, it could make no difference whatever in the argument; but it does so happen, that they are only distinguished from the perfectly orthodox, that is, the ruling party, the majority, by a more fervent attachment to religious duties, and a more habitual indulgence in devotional contemplation and exercises; by making what all Christians profess to follow as the rule of life, indeed the rule of all their actions; by showing in their whole lives and conversations, the deep interest they feel in religious subjects, that is, proving themselves to believe sincerely, by acting as if they sincerely believed, what all Christians profess to believe. The worst overt act of this heresy, is said to be a habit of reading the scriptures in families, with a few neighbors assembled, unless it be deemed a still more aggravated outrage, to have them occasionally expounded by the master of the house, or a neighboring clergyman, and (to such shocking excesses will men go, when once they have dared to depart from the Episcopal church and its ritual) accompanied with a prayer, or even a psalm, in the course of the evening. These sectaries, as they are termed, have in short some resemblance to the class, whom all orthodox churchmen in England are taught to regard with abhorrence, since their numbers make it not so easy to treat them with contempt, under the appellation of evangelists, and vital christians; that is, persons who are really what so many pretend to be—and as in our language they have got a nickname, borrowed from the times when such men fought for our liberties, and laid the foundation of our constitution; so in Switzerland the high churchmen are pleased to call them "Momiens."

Their numbers are greatly on the increase; the good effects of their teaching were undeniable; there might be a mixture of extravagance in some of their practices; there might be a good deal for a philosopher to smile at; there might be somewhat for the more rational among themselves to disapprove. But in the main they were working in the vineyard, and doing great and effectual service in their generation, when of a sudden, the alarm, spreading probably from the church and the high aristocracy, certainly propagated if not excited, by persons whose profligate habits were still more unequivocally scandalous, than their irreligious opinions and demeanor were notorious, seized the executive government of the Vaudois, and an ordinance to restrain them was promulgated in the year 1823, which had scarcely been sufficiently meditated, and lamented by the sober-minded of every class and sect, when it was followed the year after by a law formally putting down the new sect, by regulations wholly unexampled for their violence and extreme folly. We advisedly state that the free and tolerant Swiss have made a law against religious liberty, in its princi-

ples as persecuting, and in its operation almost as harsh, except that it sheds no blood, as any under which the Roman or Spanish Inquisition have acted, and that this law has gone far beyond the edicts of those famous tribunals in the absurdity of its structure.

We should like to see, as a judicial, or rather a legislative curiosity, the indictment, or whatever it may be termed, procured for a contravention of this law. It must run somewhat after this fashion.—"The jurors, &c., on their oaths, do say, that A B, being a well disposed person, and being, in truth and in fact, one of the people called Christians, having the fear of God constantly before his eyes, and being moved thereto by the instigation of the Holy Spirit, did pray to God according to the forms and ceremonies of the Church, as by law established, in a certain assembly of persons belonging to a new religious sect, to the jurors unknown, and so did commit offence," &c.

The only thing which the law, a law highly penal and summary, leaves wholly undetermined, indeed quite unknown, and not even named, is the offence which it would denounce and punish! For the offence is harbouring, directing, or officiating, at assemblies of the partisans of a certain sect; but the only description given of the sect, is 'this, or the said sect,' referring to the preamble, and there it is only stated to be 'a new religious sect, which some enthusiastic persons are seeking to introduce and propagate.'

The crime consists not in doing something, but in being something; and that something is left unspecified. Did any mortal ever before dream of prohibiting an act quite lawful to all mankind, merely because done by certain persons? Unless, indeed, our own Five Mile Act, which forbid dissenters from coming to certain towns. The Swiss improve on this last stage of persecuting tyranny, and make it highly penal for the sectaries in question, to worship God in the way prescribed to all men by the religion and laws of the State; they must not celebrate any of the ceremonies of the Established Church. If they do; if any man reads the Bible in his family, or prays, or sings a Psalm, and a neighbor happens to be present on a visit, or by calling in the evening, the assembly is illegal, and the master of the house, and those who have assisted him in these simple offices of the reformed religion, are liable to imprisonment for one year, and banishment for three.

As new caprices in tyrants have given rise to novel punishments, so a new and uncouth name is introduced in the law, to denote the new punishment denounced along with fine, prison, and exile. A person convicted, that is, suspected (for there is here absolutely no difference,) of being something which the legislature pleases to take offence at, is liable also to 'confinement'; that is, to be prohibited for a year from going across the boundaries of his own district, even if he should have, as constantly happens in Switzerland, part of his farm lying in one, and part in another district; or his house in one, and his fields in another; or his farm in one, and his market in another; or his family in one, and his church, or physician, or school, or midwife, in another; and in all cases of contravention, whether of the years 'confinement,' or of the three years' expulsion, the residue of the term, even if it be two years and a half, must be passed in a dungeon. Save us from the liberty of word and action, the freedom of religious worship, the lenity of criminal law, by which the honest Swiss are so happily distinguished from the Algerines and the Turks!

[M. Rochat, a minister of the Gospel, was convicted of reading a chapter in the Gospel, in the presence of his wife and four of their friends, and of praying to God to bless the explanations with which he accompanied the reading. For this crime he was condemned to three years banishment from his country. Several other ministers were banished for similar offences.]

We need surely go no further in our comments on this disgraceful subject—the very worst passage in the Helvetic story—one of the worst traits in the history of any modern and civilized people; and only to be forgotten, if it ever can be overlooked, by a sudden abandonment of the wrong, and return to the right path—in which the Swiss were generally wont to tread. The good conduct of some of the clergy on this occasion merits notice. An affecting and earnest petition was presented by twenty-six pastors of the Established Church, praying the government to relax its rigor, and grant toleration to their sectarian brethren. They assert their unaltered devotion to the creed and discipline of the establishment; but entreat the civil power to leave to God the punishment of offences, which regard God alone. Is it conceivable that we should, at this time of day, be actually praising men for listening the first accents of religious toleration? But how much more incredible is it that a Swiss Government should, well on in the nineteenth century, have to learn such purely elementary lessons of religious liberty, and that from the clergy of their own Established Church.

#### POETRY.

From the Christian Watchman.

[We feel greatly indebted to our correspondent "Nauton," for his truly pious and poetical effusions. We hope that the pleasure which he is the means of imparting to our readers, will afford him a present reward for his liberal and seasonable contributions.]

#### FEMALE DIGNITY.

Happy the female who amid the bloom,  
And brilliant promise of life's early day,  
Raises her kindling eye beyond the tomb,  
Rejoicing with Hope's everliving ray;  
Intent on higher objects than assume  
Enchantment in the day dreams of the gay,  
Till death dissolve the dream and tear the  
mask away!

Firm in her purpose, in her faith sincere;  
Redeemed from every low and grovelling  
aim!  
Aspiring to a purer, happier sphere;  
Nobly aspiring, struggling still to claim  
Companionship with angels, rising near  
Eternal glories, with ingenuous shame,  
Seeing her defects still—herself alone to blame.

Noble indeed the mind, that thus can look,  
On life, as on the restless rapid stage,  
(Resolving much, I deem, the SACRED BOOK  
To count it so.) OF HEAVENLY PILGRIMAGE!  
Oh! can she pause on her high path, and  
brook  
Novels and Plays and Balls?—With "noble  
rage,"  
She spurns them as the vile corruptors of the  
Age!

NEWTON.

#### SONNET.

"If any man thirst, let him come unto me and  
drink."—*Whoever will, let him take the  
water of life freely.*

How bright and broad the stream that Rock  
supplies,  
Beneath whose shade the desert-wand'ers  
find

Unequalled aid to cheer the weary mind!—  
'Tis this that fam'd Olympus far outvies,  
And e'en the springs from Helicon that rise,  
With Zion's waters once compar'd all taste  
Bitter; and though the sun-scorch'd travel-  
ler haste

To every earthly source,—fond expectation  
dies.

See! how he toils across the sultry waste;  
Yonder's a stream! he thinks, and thither lies  
With bounding hope and parched lips—  
when lo!

'Tis glowing sand\* that mocks his straining  
But Zion's stream deceives not, nor shall  
cease to flow,  
Until we've all, like Israel, pass'd the desert  
through.

B. C.

\*The phenomenon here referred to "is produced by a diminution of the density of the lower stratum of the atmosphere, which is caused by the increase of heat, arising from that communicated by the rays of the sun, to the sand with which the stratum is in immediate contact;"—in consequence of which, the traveller imagines that he sees, at no great distance, "something like a lake or river of fresh water. If, perchance, he is not undeceived, he hastens his pace to reach it sooner; the more he advances towards it, the more it dies from him, till at length it vanishes entirely, and the deluded passenger often asks, where is the water he saw at no great distance. He can scarcely believe he was so deceived; he protests that he saw the waves running before the wind, and the reflection of the high rocks in the water."

This phenomena existed in the great desert of Judea, and is expressly alluded to by the sublime and elegant Isaiah (xxxv. 7. Bishop Lowth's translation,) who, when predicting the blessings of the Messiah's spiritual kingdom, says:

*The glowing sand shall become a pool,  
And the thirsty soil babbling springs.*

By the Arabs, as well as the Hebrews, it is termed *serab*; and to this day the Persians and Arabs make use of it by an elegant metaphor, to express disappointed hope. The appellation by which this phenomenon is now generally known is *Mirage*.—See Belzoni's Narrative of his Operations and Researches in Egypt, and Horne's Introduction to the Critical Study of the Scriptures, Vol. iii. p. 56, 57.—*Lon. Bap. Magazine.*

#### CHRISTIAN SECRETARY.

HARTFORD, MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1826.

The patrons and readers of the Christian Secretary will perceive, that this number completes the second volume of the paper. For the degree of patronage which has been obtained, we desire to be grateful; and hope it may not diminish. The Secretary has hitherto laboured under many disadvantages; and none of them greater than the expense incurred by the maintenance of an agency, and an indifference in many cases, to the importance of such a paper for religious purposes. It will be remembered, that when this paper commenced, there was no other religious paper published in this city. Within little more than a year, the Connecticut Observer, a very respectable paper, devoted to the Congregational interest, has commenced, and we believe, without any expense for an agent, has obtained a very general circulation in the State. It has been sufficient to secure to that paper the aid and assistance of every minister of that order in the State, and his influential brethren, that a respectable committee of ministers gave it their recommendation; telling their people, that it the Objects of the paper were obtained, their churches would be guarded, their weak societies strengthened, their powers and efforts as a denomination consolidated, and of course increased. That such a recommendation, and such objects should be heeded and produce action, is as it should be. The Baptist Convention of Connecticut have repeatedly urged the general circulation of the Secretary for the purpose of strengthening, and supplying the weak and destitute churches with the preached word, and consolidating the strength

of our denomination, and promoting what we believe is the truth. And we should rejoice to see the recommendation taking a more general effect among the Baptists. We think ministers, and others, might adopt measures to procure subscribers, which would be efficacious, and save nearly all the expense of an agency. The columns of the Christian Watchman contain a plan for this purpose, which has, upon trial succeeded. In the Church or society, a committee was appointed to wait upon the people and procure their subscriptions, receiving the pay in advance, thereby saving from 12 to 20 per cent. in the price, and communicating with the editor for the Paper. We are happy to hear the Editor of the Watchman say, that such means are increasing his papers rapidly; and will not our brethren in Connecticut do the same? Is not truth as dear to Baptists as to others, and do they not prize it as highly? Sustained as is the Secretary, by the confidence, and identified as it is with the interests of the Convention, we hope for and expect, a large accession to our list at an early period of the third volume. We speak with confidence, in our appeal to the churches, because they know the Paper is not private property, but the property of the Convention of churches; and we think it hazardous nothing to say, that the Christian Secretary, and the Baptist convention, (which by the way is all the Missionary Society the Baptists have in the State) must stand or fall together. In the four years of experiment on the Paper, much labour has been expended, and much ground has been gained, toward our objects; let it not be lost, for the want of energy, liberality, zeal, and perseverance. Let it not be forgotten, that if the want of support, should ever compel the Convention, to suspend this Paper, the probability is very small that any thing of the kind would again be attempted.

Extract of a letter to the Editor, dated Jan. 13, 1826.

Revival of Religion in Agawam, W. Springfield.

"But now my dear brother, I have good news to tell you. The Lord is at work in this place by the power of his spirit. Those who were stout-hearted and far from righteousness, are bowing to the mild sceptre of Jesus. Infidelity is shocked; the icy fortress of Unitarianism is thawed, and illuminated by the Sun of Righteousness. In short, sinners of all grades, and classes, and ages, are alarmed, and are crying for mercy; while saints rejoice in the work of the Lord. More of this hereafter. May this blessed work spread and prevail.

Yours truly,

P. S. About fifty have obtained hope in Christ, since the awakening began. 21 have been baptized, and ten are expected to put on Christ visibly, on the next Lord's day. Many are now distressed for sin, and new instances of awakening are multiplying; the hearts of saints rejoice. Such a season of the divine power as we witnessed here on Thursday and Friday evenings, have rarely occurred in the history of the Church."

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. is received, but for reasons assigned in the Editorial article in No. 51, it is thought advisable to defer its publication.

A Biographical sketch of Deacon Oren Shiller, is necessarily omitted this week on account of the Index; it shall have a place next week.

#### General Intelligence.

#### CONGRESSIONAL.

JANUARY 12, 1826.

In the Senate, the Bill to annul the act of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, respecting Wrecks, was ordered to be engrossed for its third reading.—Mr. Van Buren submitting the reasons which induced the Judiciary Committee to report it. The Bill, from the House of Representatives, to authorize the Legislature of Ohio to sell certain Land, heretofore appropriated to the use of Schools, underwent some discussion; and was laid on the table. The objection urged was, that Congress had no control over the subject; having, by the compact giving its assent to the admission of Ohio into the Union, granted all its right and title to the State. The other business was uninteresting.

Exclusive of the discussion on the Judiciary Bill which called up Mr. Mangum, in conclusion of the remarks he had offered on the day before; and Mr. Wickliffe, of Kentucky, in reply, the only business transacted in the House of Representatives yesterday, consisted of the introduction and adoption of resolutions. Mr. Phelps, of Connecticut, introduced a joint resolution, proposing an amendment to the Constitution, in relation to the election of President and Vice President, which was read and ordered to be printed.—Mr. Saunders, of North Carolina, laid on the table a resolution calling for information from the Department of State, as to the newspapers in which the Laws of the United States have been directed to be printed, and the expense annually paid by that Department for publication of the laws, and public printing. Resolutions were adopted, on motion of Mr. Cook, of Illinois, on the subject of ascertaining and fixing the Northern Boundary of the State of Illinois;—on motion of Mr. Kremer, of Pennsylvania, to prevent plaintiff or defendant in a case put down for trial, from continuing the same unless sufficient cause shall be shown for such continuance;—on motion of Mr. Garney, of New-York, relative to the establishment of a Circuit Court in the Northern District of New York; and on motion of Mr. Scott, of Missouri, on the subject of



erecting an Arsenal at or near St. Louis, Missouri.

Friday, January 13.

In the Senate, the Bill to prevent Desertion in the Army, and for other purposes, was, after considerable discussion, ordered to its last reading, by a vote of 26 to 12. The other business was not important.

The General Appropriation Bill, for the year 1826, was reported in the House of Representatives yesterday, by Mr. M'Lane, of Delaware, and went through two readings. Mr. Drayton, of South Carolina, reported a bill from the Judiciary Committee, to divide the South-Carolina District into two divisions. The Resolution, laid on the table yesterday, by Mr. Saunders, of North-Carolina, relative to the Newspapers in which the Laws are published; and that offered sometime since, by Mr. Cooke, of Tennessee, respecting the expenses of the Naval Courts Martial, were agreed to. The District of Columbia Committee were instructed, on motion of Mr. Alexander, of Virginia, to consider the expediency of a Corporation Tax in Georgetown, for the support of the Poor; and to amend the Act relative to the Turnpike Roads in the County of Alexandria. A Resolution was also agreed to, on motion of Mr. Dorsey, of Maryland, instructing the Committee on the Judiciary, on the subject of providing for the payment, by the United States, of costs incurred by Defendants, in suits brought by the United States, in which the judgment is rendered for the Defendants.

The residue of the day was occupied in the resumed discussion of the Judicial Bill. Mr. Dorsey, of Maryland and Mr. Williams, of N. Carolina, having delivered their sentiments in favour of the Bill.

Saturday, January 14.

The Senate did not sit yesterday. Mr. Powell of Virginia, and Judge Clarke of Kentucky, the former against, and the latter in favour of the judicial bill, occupied the floor yesterday, in the committee of the House of Representatives. Mr. Cook of Illinois was the floor for Monday. The annual appropriation bills, for the Military and naval service and the Indian department, were reported by Mr. M'Lane, from the Committee on Ways and Means. Two bills were reported from the Committee on the District of Columbia, the one to prohibit the drawing of lotteries not authorized by law, in the District of Columbia; and the other to amend the charter of Georgetown. The resolution offered by Mr. Verplanck of New York, on the subject of a rate of damages on bills of exchange, was referred to a select committee of seven. A resolution was laid on the table by Mr. Dorsey of Maryland, on the subject of the Cadets at West Point, calling for a list of names, dates of commission, &c. A resolution offered by Mr. Kremer, on the subject of appointment of referees to determine suits in the courts of the United States, was rejected. A resolution, offered by Mr. Van Kenseleer, directing a portrait of General Washington to be procured, and placed up in the hall opposite to that of General Lafayette, was laid on the table for consideration. Among the other resolutions adopted were—one relative to a reduction and equalization of the duties on the several kinds of wines imported—one relative to the purchase of additional land in the vicinity of Fort Washington—and one in reference to a change in the mode of compensation to deputy post masters.

The partition lately erected behind the Speaker's chair is ordered to be removed.

M. de Chateaubriand predicts, in the Paris Journal des Debates, that British diplomacy will appear at the Congress of Panama; and work underhand against the principle of the sovereignty of the people, which the Congress may proclaim in general terms. He thinks that the object of "the freedom of religious worship" will prove a stumbling block; that a mutual guaranty of territory will be attended with difficulties; that Brazil, with her imperial diadem, will make an awkward and anomalous figure at the Congress; that Great Britain will be intent on the interests of her trade and manufactures and those of the monarchical cause, and France remain insignificant in all the great projects of alliance, mutual defence, &c. which may be effected. —N.Y. Gazette.

The Manchester Guardian states that a Mr. Kay, of Preston, has invented a mode of spinning flax by machinery, which bids fair to effect a complete revolution in the linen manufacture of England, and to give it advantages which it never before enjoyed. —N. Y. Statesman.

It was reported that the French government had acknowledged the Independence of the Republic of Colombia. The recognition had not been officially promulgated, or suffered to transpire, but in confidence. —lb.

MADRID, Nov. 1.

In proportion as the truth comes to light, we lose the little hope which remained of preserving a small part of our transmarine possessions. Official despatches were received a few days ago, which have thrown our Ministry into consternation. M. Pinillos, the Intendant of the Havana, has written from the United States, where he had stopped in his way to his destination. He announces, not only to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, but to the king himself, that the Naval and Military preparations now making in Colombia and Mexico are so considerable, that it must be considered as impossible long to defend the island of Cuba and that of Porto Rico against them. The hostile force will also find a powerful auxiliary in the elements of discord which prevail in the interior, and in the fermentation which this republican spirit excites.

The report of Mr. Pinillos says also, that the fears which these preparations inspire must extend beyond the colonies which have remained faithful to the Mother country. Spain itself ought to be on its guard. Next spring the enemy will not confine himself to privateering war—a landing on the coasts where the discontent is the most general may very likely take place, and augment the embarrassment of the government. In short, the picture which he draws is most alarming, and has excited the most serious uneasiness. It is remarked that the conferences between the King and the Duke del Infantado, have since been very frequent.

The grand jury of the city of New-York have found a bill of indictment against Jasper Ward, one of the senators of the state, under the statute for the prevention and punishment of bribery. It will be remembered that he has addressed the senate, requiring an investigation of the charge by that body.

It is stated in a letter from Tampico that since the fall of the Castle of San Juan, the trade of Alvarado is expected to be transferred to Vera Cruz, and 10 or 12,000 dollars have been asked for the rent of stores in the latter place.

A letter has been transmitted to the Editor of the Journal Debats in Paris by the Jewish Grand Rabbi De Cologne, on the subject of Mr. Noah's proclamation for the gathering of the tribes of Israel, in which he treats the measure as the project of a visionary, and on behalf of Messrs. Hirschell and Meldona, chief Rabbis in London, as well as himself, decline the appointments tendered to them by the proclamation; stating that they regard the attempt itself, to reassemble with any politico-national design, "as an act of High Treason against the Divine Majesty."

#### LATE FROM EUROPE.

The packet ship Edward Quessel arrived at New-York from Havre on Tuesday afternoon, bringing Paris papers to the 30th November.

Gen Americ has made a discovery at Cadix, which seems to support what has been said in the London journals relative to the project of effecting a disembarkation, headed by Mima. The Minister of War has, in consequence, given orders for precautionary measures to be adopted along the whole line of coast.

The German papers state that the southern part of the Morea, particularly Coron, Modon and Navarino, continue a prey to the ravages of the plague. The Egyptian soldiers, as well as the inhabitants, are dying by hundreds.

Vessels arrived at Leghorn from Alexandria, state that the Egyptian fleet with 5000 foot soldiers and 900 cannoneers, sailed from Alexandria on the 21st October. A Roman journal mentions their complete dispersion by the Greek Admirals Miaulis, Sachteury, and Canaris.

#### STILL LATER FROM EUROPE.

From the N. Y. Evening Post of January 12.

Latest from Europe.—By the ship Isaac Hicks, arrived last night, we have received Liverpool papers to the 3d of December, containing London dates of the 1st, four days later than were brought by the Corinthian. There is very little news in them. The papers of the 1-1, contain the ratification by the King of Portugal of the Brazil treaty.—Great agitation prevailed in the London money market.

A merchant of Glasgow is in custody on a charge of forgery and admits his guilt. We are afraid (says the Glasgow Free Press) that others are implicated.

Money is worth in London about three per cent. per annum in stock, but merchant's bills are difficult of negotiation at five.

It appears that there have been loans raised in Great Britain for South America to the amount of 21 millions. This is fully equal to the whole amount of the national debt of the United States.

Wool.—A reaction has taken place in the wool market. Wool which ten days since was worth 17s, 18s, and even 20s per pack, is now selling for only 12s or 13s for the prime lots—with a dull demand at that price, and but little chance of an advance. The price 12 months since was about the same as now.

#### ANOTHER ARRIVAL FROM ENGLAND.

The packet ship John Wells arrived at N York on Friday morning, having left Liverpool on the 8th December.

The London papers of the 6th state, that the pressure in the money market was increasing. The demand for gold is without intermission, and is required to meet small local notes. Advances cannot be obtained on foreign securities. A great number of banks are shaken, and several new mercantile failures have taken place. The East India Company have determined their own acceptances due previous to May, at 4 per cent. The bank of Ireland was to close in January for three days, to prepare for the change in the currency.

In Ireland at a Catholic meeting, resolutions of thanks were passed for the address from the Catholics of New-York.

The fever at Tangier was raging to such an extent that the inhabitants were falling dead in the streets.

The death and funeral of General Foy in Paris are announced. There has been a failure in Paris for four millions. There is no other news of importance.

The markets were a little lower.

Vermont.—A sugar maple tree now standing near West Rutland, in this State, measures thirty-five feet and eleven inches in circumference, two feet from the earth.

New-York.—Professor Anthon, of New-York, declared lately in one of his lectures, that "he would prove that Romulus was not the founder of Rome, and the Eternal City existed centuries previous to his birth." —National Journal.

An English Naval Architect, of some eminence, now on a visit to this country, says, that the ship of the line, (the Pennsylvania) nearly finished at the Navy Yard, in Philadelphia, will be the finest vessel in any navy.—For beauty of model, useful and elegant proportions, strength of construction, and general arrangement of the interior, he believes she will be unsurpassed—certainly not equalled by any British ship. The materials worked up in her are of the choicest description, and her ornaments, although rich, will subserve utility. She has a round stern, and will be capable of mounting 130 guns; when completed she will be the largest vessel in the world. —lb.

New-Hampshire.—The New-Hampshire Bible Society has now existed fourteen years, and during this time has distributed 14,135 Bibles, and 7,943 Testaments, within the limits of the State. Within the past year it has remitted to the Treasurer of the American Bible Society \$615 64, for the purchase of Bibles and Testaments, and \$300 as a donation.

Jacob Root, Robert Shannon, and Reuben Falls, alias Fowler, notorious counterfeiters, have been sentenced by the General Sessions of New-York, to imprisonment and hard labour in the State Prison for life.

The Savannah Georgian states, that Gov.

Troup is lying in a state of dangerous indisposition.

Rhode Island.—Providence contains fifteen thousand inhabitants, and twelve churches.

Some grave stones have lately been found in the town of Warwick, which are memorials of some of the first emigrants of the Plymouth Colony. The names of Sarah Tefft, and Elizabeth Stone, with the date of March 16, 1622, are legible.

Farmington Canal.—The length of this canal is twenty-eight miles. We learn from the New-Haven papers, that the excavation, low-path, embankments, locks, aqueducts, culverts, road and farm bridges, have been contracted for from Massachusetts line, to the village of Cheshire, an extent of fourteen miles. Only fourteen miles remain to be contracted for, and even on these fourteen miles the locks are under contract. These contracts have been made at 20 per cent. below the estimates of Judge Wright, although the canal is to be both broader and deeper than was projected by him.

From the N. Y. Daily Advertiser.

Rufus King, Esq. the Minister from the United States of America, was, last week, introduced to the King by Mr. Secretary Canning. His excellency had an audience with his Majesty to deliver his credentials. Don J. Hurtado, the Columbian Minister, was also introduced to his Majesty by Mr. Secretary Canning.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer on board his Majesty's ship Maidstone, on the coast of Africa, dated Prince's Island, Sept. 12. It gives an affecting account of the condition of 700 wretched human beings, found on board a French slave ship, bound for Martinique.

"At Sierra Leone and Cape Coast, they are, and have been, very sickly; at the former place they have lost upwards of one hundred troops, and rather more at Cape Coast since the rainy season. I am also glad to say the squadron has been fortunate in captures, so that we are picking up a little. But the French now engross all the trade in slaves. A few days ago we had a long and arduous chase, after a large frigate built corvette ship, which we at last ran alongside of. She proved to be the French ship Orpheus, with a cargo of 700 slaves on board, and in a state that would have made your heart ache to have seen. The rascals had nearly all the men chained by the neck, or most of them; the rest by the legs to the deck—and to add to the horror of the thing, the bolts were riveted, thereby shewing it was not the intention of the monsters, to let the innocent victims of their cruelty loose until the end of the voyage. She was bound to Martinique. The between-deck was little more than three feet high, and the groans of the poor sufferers almost unmaned me. When I desired them to be released, I thought I should have choked; never were my feelings so much hurt." —lb.

A dreadful fire in the south of France has reduced to ashes, a part of the Commune of Villavee, (in the department of Isere) and the damage is estimated at two millions of francs. —lb.

On the night of the 22d of October, Civita Vecchia was the scene of a dreadful hurricane, such as the oldest sailors had never witnessed; it lasted two hours, and threatened the whole town and port with destruction; houses were thrown down, and vessels driven from their moorings, on the shore. —lb.

The Pope has ordered the Jews to wear a yellow covering on their hats, and the women a yellow ribband on the breast, under the pain of severe penalties. —lb.

The Emperor Alexander is said to be in a bad state of health; private letters report him to be almost blind and deaf. —lb.

The professors of the French and English tongues in Madrid, have received orders to cease giving lessons. This is quite *selon le regle* in Madrid. The next step possibly may be, to imitate the Turk, and have none but mutes around the tyrant. —lb.

The Pope has withdrawn his consent to the re-establishment of the Inquisition in Spain.

North-West Passage.—Some of our contemporaries having stated that the expedition to the North Pole was totally abandoned, we can assure our readers that Captain Parry is re-engaged to make another attempt, and will sail with the expedition early in the spring. A voyage of discovery round the world would be more interesting, and would certainly offer more probable advantages than the North Passage, if accomplished, can ever effect. —Sunday Times.

A French paper states that Commodore Rogers is much dissatisfied with the refusal of the Ottoman Porte, to admit American vessels to the navigation of the Bosphorus, and has sent a threatening letter to the Reis Effendi.

Washington City.—A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, expresses his admiration at the immense and excellent work of the capitol, but remarks that almost every thing around it is in an unfinished state. The trees planted near the surrounding railing are mostly small, scrubby evergreens, "that may make a handsome appearance some centuries hence." The President's house, (the property of the nation) is a noble looking edifice, but every thing appears unfinished, and the grounds before that front which looks upon the Tiber, "are in a very filthy state, much resembling a cattle yard." The walks in the vicinity of the public offices are laid out in good taste, but the evergreens planted to beautify them, are only from 6 to 18 inches in height. Tiber creek, so called, is a small, contemptible stream; "a dry horse would absolutely exhaust it, and cause a drought among the frogs."

The correspondent alluded to above, describes the ceremony of administering the oath to the members of Congress. They are called up by states before the clerk's desk; the clerk holds up a bible; those who choose, lay a hand upon it, while others raise an arm. The speaker then repeats the oath; the bible is kissed by those who touch it, while the others drop their arms. Almost all the members from New England raised their arms, but those from the southern states, without exception, laid their hands upon the bible and kissed it.

#### EGYPTIAN FLEET.

With respect to the Greek fleet, on the sailing of the Egyptian expedition from Alexandria, it is said to have retired from the coasts of Egypt and of the Isle of Rhodes, and sailed towards the Morea. The Turkish and Egyptian fleets had arrived off Candia without accident, there to wait a time before proceeding to the Morea. According to an article from Genoa, in the Quotidienne, Colocotroni had proposed to Ibrahim Pacha a plan for pacifying Greece. It was to divide that country into four provinces or principalities, each of which should have a Greek Hospodar, nominated by the Sultan, to whom an annual tribute should be paid. This plan was transmitted to Constantinople by Ibrahim, by whom it was generally approved, but it was not expected that the members of the Divan would suffer the idea of treating with "the rebels," to be for one moment entertained.

Stage Accident.—About 4 o'clock on Tuesday morning last, as the mail stage was proceeding west about 10 miles from Schenectady, the fog was such, that the horses got so far out of the road, that one of the wheels went over the bank of the Mohawk, and the stage was precipitated down the bank, and was only saved from going into the river by the intervention of a tree near the bottom, against which it lodged; having made a complete revolution in its descent. There were five passengers inside, all of whom were providentially preserved from material injury, save one, who received a severe bruise on the head and breast, which produced a suspension of his senses for a short time; but after the application of some spirits to the parts affected, he came to, and proceeded with his fellow passengers to Utica. The king bolt came out as the stage went off, leaving the fore wheels with the horses safe on the bank.

The driver sprang from his seat just in time to save himself, and after tying his horses, went to the relief of the passengers. No blame whatever is attached to the driver. The accident proceeded entirely from the fog, obstructing the light of the lamps. The distance from the top of the bank to the water, is supposed to be between 20 and 30 feet. —Utica Baptist Register.

#### DEDICATION.

On Wednesday, the 4th inst. the new Meeting House in the 2d parish in this town, was dedicated to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Introductory prayer and reading the Scriptures, by the Rev. Mr. Sprague, of West-Springfield.

1st prayer by the Rev. Mr. Boies, of South-Hadley.

A very appropriate and solemn discourse was delivered by the Rev. Pastor, from 2d Chronicles, 7th chap. 12th, 15th and 16th verses.

Dedicating Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Os good, of this town.

Concluding Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Gould, of this town. —Springfield Republican.

#### ORDAINED.

At North Yarmouth, over the Baptist Church in that town, Eld. Alonzo King, Introductory Prayer by Eld. A. Wilson. Sermon by Eld. Chapin, from 2 Cor. ii. 15. "For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: &c." Ordaining prayer by Eld. S. Stearns. Charge by Eld. B. Titcomb. Right hand of Fellowship, by Eld. T. B. Ripley. Concluding prayer by Eld. B. Titcomb, jr. The services were very interesting. —Baptist Herald.

Installed, on the 27th of Dec. at Warren, Vt. the Rev. Stephen M. Wheelock, pastor of the Congregational Church and Society in that town, and ordained on the same occasion, Rev. George Freeman, Missionary of the Vermont Juvenile Missionary Society, to the work of an evangelist. —Recorder & Telegraph.

On Wednesday, Nov. 2d, the Rev. Samuel N. Shepard, was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, over the church and congregation in East-Guilford, Conn. Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Shepard, of Lenox, Mass. from Acts xx. 24. "To testify the Gospel of the grace of God."

The Rev. Charles Fitch was installed at Holliston, Mass. on the 4th inst. Introductory prayer by the Rev. Mr. Long, of Milford, Sermon by the Rev. Mr. Wisner, of Boston, Ordaining prayer by the Rev. Mr. Howe, of Hopkinton, Charge by the Rev. Dr. Saunders, of Medfield, Right Hand of Fellowship by the Rev. Mr. Ide, of Medway, Address to the church and people by the Rev. Mr. Noyes, of Needham, Concluding prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wood, of Upton.

At Sackville, New-Brunswick, the Rev. Matthew Ritchley, Sermon by the Rev. Stephen Bamford, from 1 Tim. iv. 16.

#### MARRIED.

In this city, by the Rev. Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Harvey Combs, to Miss Hopeful Lamberton. At Canton, Mr. Charles Bentley, of Tyngham, Mass. to Miss Lucia Barber. At Hebron, Mr. Phiney Parker, of Mansfield, to Miss Ruby Page: Mr. William Brown, to Miss Anna Horton. At Guilford, Mr. Erastus Kimberly, to Miss Ann Chapman. At Dumfries, Upper Canada, on the 19th of Sept., Mr. Eleazer Blanchard, of Sturbridge, Mass., to Miss Eliza Dorchester, of Tolland, Connecticut.

At Providence, by the Rev. Dr. Gano, Rev. James D. Knowles, of Boston, to Miss Susan Eliza Langley, daughter of Mr. Joshua H. Langley.

N. B. The marriage of Mr. Nathan C. Richmond to Miss Mary H. Fairchild, as inserted last week, was erroneous—it should have been Fairfield.

#### OBITUARY.

At the almshouse Mr. Job Glover, 51.

At Windsor, Mr. Jacob Loomis, 75.

At Suffield, Dec. 30, Capt. Thaddeus Spencer, 59.

At New-York, Rev. James C. Crane.

At Haddam, Dec. 25, Deacon Orin Shailer, aged 56.

At Farmington, Mr. Elijah Cowles, 71; Mr. Lewis Cowles, merchant, 25.

At East Hartford, Mr. Joel Olmsted, 44.

At East Windsor, Mr. Jonathan Bissell, 76; Mr. Samuel Rockwell, 79; Widow Hannah Osborne, 80.

At Berlin, Dr. Adna Stanley, 53.

At Florence, N. Y. Mr. Oliver Foster, 58, formerly of East Windsor.

At Middletown, Mrs. Mehitable Harris, 42.

—Number of deaths in the city of Middletown in 1825, 59.

At West Springfield, Mr. Gamaliel Bailey, 41.

Drowned at New York, on the 27th ult. Mr. William Bowers, of Wethersfield, Connecticut.

At Andover, Dec. 4, Mrs. Abigail Huntoon, 34 years.

In Winchester, Oct. 31st, widow Elizabeth Field, 81.

In Marlow, Mr. Joseph Knight, on his birthday, Nov. 22, aged 58.

In Walpole, on Wednesday last, Mrs. Mary Reddington, 52.

In Alstead, Nov. 25, Doct. Thomas D. Brooks, 50.

At Peterborough, Mrs. Mary Wilson, aged 90, relict of the late Major Robert Wilson.

In Keene, after an illness of 13 weeks, Ellen Sophia Prentiss, daughter of the Editor of the N. H. Sentinel, aged 14 years and six months.

At Batavia, Sept. 23, on board ship Clav, Mr. Jeremiah Marston, of Hampton, N. H. seaman.

At Thompson's Island, William Miller, Esq. Charge des Affaires of the U. States to the Republic of Guatemala, and late Governor of North Carolina.

At Fort Preble, Portland Harbor, Mrs. Mary Giddings, formerly of Exeter, N. H.

In Dover, Mrs. Jane Flagg, 47, wife of Capt. William Flagg.

At Salmon Falls, 27th ult. Miss Charlotte H. Griffith, aged 21.

At Durham, Mrs. Mabel Baldwin, 74, wife of Mr. Reuben Baldwin.

At N. W. Haven, Miss Betsey Tomlinson, 30; Mr. Nathaniel P. Alling, 21; Mrs. Mary Sanford, 27; Mrs. Lisle, 79; Mr. Eaton, 38; Mr. Austin, 60.

At Milford, suddenly, Miss Hannah P. Strong, 13, daughter of William Strong, Esq.

At North Stonington, Mr. William T. Browning, 60.

At New-London, Mr. Reuben Davis, 65.

At New-Canaan, Isaac Richards, Esq. 66.

At Greenwich, Dr. Elisha Belcher, 75.

Died, in Newport, (N. H.) on the 29th ult. Charles Mason Thatcher, son of Elias Thatcher, aged 12. From the representation of some friends of the family, they were induced to employ a quack by the name of Holman.

He commenced operations by *steaming*, and administering *red pepper* and *lobelia*, at a time when the fever was at its height, and this horrid prescription was forced down the child's throat, notwithstanding his entreaties and cries that he should desist. The boy repeatedly begged of his mother to take him out of the monster's hands, but he begged in vain; the course was persisted in until the third day, when the child died.

#### NOTICE.

The Baptist Minister's Meeting of Windham County and vicinity, will be held at the house of the Rev. John Payne, in Hampton, on the 2d Tuesday in February, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. Mr. Gros is appointed to preach on the occasion. It is hoped that the ministering brethren of the county in particular, will all attend: especially as it will be an object of the meeting, to inquire into the expediency of forming a county Missionary Society. JAMES A. BOSWELL, Secretary.

#### WANTED.

A boy about sixteen years of age, as an apprentice to the shoe-making business; one that can come well recommended will meet with as good encouragement to get his trade as at any other shop in this state. MINER & GOODRICH.

Wethersfield, Jan. 16th, 1826.

#### THE

#### PROTECTION

INSURANCE COMPANY. Having been duly organized, are now ready to receive proposals for FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE, at their office in State-Street, a few doors west of Front-Street.

This Institution was incorporated by the Legislature of this state at their last session, for the purpose of effecting FIRE and MARINE INSURANCE. Its capital is ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, with liberty to increase the same to HALF A MILLION OF DOLLARS. The first named sum is all paid in or secured, and the whole amount (\$150,000) is vested in Bank Funds, Mortgages and approved endorsed notes; all which, on the shortest notice, could be converted into Cash and appropriated to the payment of losses.

The Directors pledge themselves to issue policies on as favourable terms as any other Office in the United States; and by fairness and liberality in conducting the business of the Company, they expect to gain the confidence of the public.

The following gentlemen are Directors of this Company.

Solomon Porter	Nathan Morgan,
Jeremiah Brown,	Henry Hudson,
Wm. W. Ellsworth,	Roderick Terry,
Merrick W. Chapin,	Edward Watkinson,
James B. Hosmer,	James H. Wells,
	Charles S. Phelps,

WM. W. ELLSWORTH, President. THOMAS C. PERKINS, Secretary. Hartford, July 7, 1825. 25tf

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#### INSURANCE COMPANY,

WILL receive proposals for Insurance against loss or damage by FIRE, every day in the week, (except Sunday,) at their office in Morgan's Exchange Coffee-House, State St. in Hartford, Connecticut.

DANIEL ST. JOHN, Esquire of said Hartford, is appointed Surveyor. His acts in that capacity will be recognized as the acts of the Company.

THOMAS K. BRACE, President. ISAAC PERKINS, Secretary.



